

# Great Performance at Tic Toc Cafe

By Russel Glowatz

Long Island has recently been garnering national attention to the acoustic music scene flourishing in the coffee houses across the Island. One particular café, located not far from Stony Brook University has been featuring a seasoned performer who has been entertaining audiences for the past twenty years. Every other Saturday night, The Tic Toc café located on Lake Ave in St James plays host to veteran singer and pianist, Brian Kachejian. Over the course of four hours, the audience was entertained by the singer's great cover versions of rock, blues and jazz classics. The singer performed a mixture of popular requests with those rare album cuts that were a pleasure to hear. In his first set, Brian Kachejian played many standards with a few originals that stayed true to the spirit of the jazz style. Kachejian performed a haunting version of Sinatra's Angel Eyes that clearly delivered the message of love gone astray so evident in Sinatra's work. During the second set he did a killer version of Lynyrd Skynyrd's Freebird that brought the audience to their feet with a smoking piano jam that was a testament to the pianist's virtuoso skills. A cover

version of Springsteen's The Fever featured Kachejian's soulful voice and passion for performance.

In between the cover versions, Kachejian delivered solid original compositions that musically combined the sounds of rock, blues and jazz genres with lyrical content that echoed the earlier work of songwriters like Harry Chapin and Neil Young. In Kachejian's song County Roads, the main character struggled to support his daughter by driving a truck all day and dealing with a deck of cards that never seemed to play out in his favor. The social and economic issues of the working class were themes that Kachejian explored in many of his other compositions. Years of nightclub work also seemed to have an influence on his writing. The saga of the saloon singer and the ideas of lost love and the one that got away also lay present in the heart of many of Kachejian's songs

The atmosphere at the Tic Toc was extremely friendly and very comfortable. The food was great and the coffee was fresh roasted in house. The wide range of music that Brian Kachejian performed made for a very entertaining and enjoyable evening. Check him out; he is one of New York's finest entertainers.